

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL
CHAPTER 61

Statutory Authority: S.C. Code Section 48-1-10 et seq.

Notice of Drafting:

The South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (Department) proposes to amend specific sections of R.61-68, Water Classifications and Standards, and sections of R. 61-69, Classified Waters. The purpose of this notice is to extend the drafting period previously established by the January 26, 2007, drafting notice published in Volume 31, Issue No. 1 of the *South Carolina State Register*. All previous comments, as well as any additional comments received after this publishing, will be considered. Interested persons are invited to submit their views and recommendations in writing to Amy M. Bennett, Standards Coordinator, Bureau of Water, 2600 Bull Street, Columbia, South Carolina 29201, or by email at bennetam@dhec.sc.gov. To be considered, written comments must be received no later than 5:00 p.m. on June 25, 2007.

Synopsis:

Section 303(c)(2)(B) of the Federal Clean Water Act (CWA) requires that South Carolina's water quality standards be reviewed and revised, where necessary, at least every three years for the purposes of considering the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) most recent numeric and narrative criteria and to comply with recent Federal regulatory revisions and recommendations. This process is generally referred to as the triennial review. The Department is currently reviewing the water quality standards as part of this triennial review process. Some of the topics that the Department had previously identified for consideration in the above-referenced notice included the following:

- Review and, where appropriate, adoption of revised Federal water quality criteria to reflect the most current final published criteria according to Sections 304(a) and 307(a) of the CWA.
- Review and, where appropriate, revise the assessment of the bacteriological indicator for protection of recreational uses.
- Addition or revision of definitions.
- Review and, where appropriate, adopt a site-specific dissolved oxygen standard for portions of the Savannah River.
- Review the underlying scientific basis for human health protection related to the arsenic criteria and, if appropriate, revise the arsenic criteria.
- Stylistic changes which may include corrections for: readability, grammar, punctuation, typography, codification, references, and language style.

In addition to these topics, the Department will review and, where appropriate, make changes to clarify and revise the regulatory language regarding NPDES permitting and protection of surface waters for drinking water purposes. Revisions will address issues regarding the implementation of human health standards and mixing zone restrictions.

Legislative review will be required.